



2017 JULY CALENDAR

BLACKSTONE RIVER & CANAL HERITAGE STATE PARK

River Bend Farm Visitor Center is located at 287 Oak Street Uxbridge MA 01569

Following the Plough exhibit upper level open daily from 10:00-4:00.

Visitor Services Supervisor: Kathryn Park Phone Number: 508-278-7604

All programs are free and open to the public. Children must be accompanied by adult. Reasonable accommodations on request.

For more information please call the park or online at:

<http://www.mass.gov/eea/agencies/dcr/massparks/region-central/blackstone-river-and-canal-heritage-state-park.html>

| -Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|---|---|----------------|------------------|-----------------|---|--|
| | | | | | | 1 Butterfly Walk Garden Tour 10:00-11:00 |
| 2 Bees and Linden Trees 9:00-10:00 Woodlands and Waterways 11:00-12:00 | 3 Junior Naturalists <i>Bird Beak Buffet</i> 10:00-11:00 Fish Prints 11:30-1:00 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 Kidleidoscope Nature Story Hour <i>Busy Tree</i> 10:30 - 11:30 Discovery Hour 11:30-12:30 | 8 Insect Safari 10:00-11:00 Nature Observations and Journaling 11:30-12:00 Canal Towpath Walk 1:00-2:15 |
| 9 Art at the River 10:00-11:00 Canal Towpath Walk 1:00-2:15 | 10 Junior Naturalists <i>Tracks and Scat</i> 10:00-11:00 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 Kidleidoscope Nature Story Hour <i>Butterfly</i> <i>Masquerade</i> 10:30 - 11:30 Discovery Hour 11:30-12:30 Night Sky 9:00-10:00 | 15 |



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|---|---|-----------|-----------|-----------|---|--|
| 16 | 17 Junior Naturalists <i>Pollinators</i> 10:00-11:00 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 Kidleidoscope Nature Story Hour <i>Turtle Splash</i> 10:30 - 11:30 Discovery Hour 11:30-12:30 | 22 Woodlands and Waterways Walk 9:00-10:00 |
| 23 Stories in Stone Hike to Goat Hill Lock 9:00-10:30 Canal Towpath Walk 1:00-2:15 | 24 Junior Naturalists <i>Snakes and Turtles</i> 10:00-11:00 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 Kidleidoscope Nature Story Hour <i>Around the Pond</i> 10:30 - 11:30 Discovery Hour 11:30-12:30 | 29 |

RIVER BEND FARM VISITORS CENTER

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| <i>Following the Plough</i> Exhibit at River Bend Farm | The Visitors' Center is open from 10 – 4 daily. Our exhibit “Following the Plough” explores the story of the Blackstone Valley and its communities from pre-European settlement through European style agricultural development, industrialization, and into today. Guided tours for groups with advance notice. |
| Healthy Heart Towpath Walk | Staying active is a healthy life choice and what better place than in a beautiful state park. Portions of the Blackstone Canal towpath are designated as an easy 1 mile Healthy Heart Hike. Pick up a self-guided towpath brochure in the visitor center and get out often for this enjoyable walk that offers diverse scenery. |



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PROGRAM DESCRIPTIONS

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| Kidleidoscope Nature Story Hour | Nature themed story and activity hour. Join us at the Visitor Center for a weekly program designed to connect young children to nature. Runs rain or shine, meets inside the Big Red Barn during inclement weather. |
| Discovery Hour | Borrow a Discovery Pack backpack filled with great tools, nature guides and activity suggestions. Hit the trail and have fun exploring, learning and sharing your discoveries! Sign out a backpack at the visitor center. |
| Butterfly Walk Garden Tour | In partnership with the Blackstone River Valley National Historical Park's 17 Saturdays of Summer '17, July 1 features the adaptive re-use that turned the Voss Barn silo foundation into a pollinator garden. Find out what butterflies and other pollinators are common in the Blackstone Valley. Enjoy the garden in full bloom as we look for butterflies and identify the local pollinator plants in the garden and nearby. About ½ mile easy walk. Meet at Visitor Center. All ages welcome. |
| Bees and Linden Trees | In early July you can smell and hear the linden trees buzzing before you see them. Take some time to smell the flowers, talk a bit about pollinators, and enjoy the blooms around the park on this easy Sunday morning stroll, about 1 mile. Meet at Visitor Center. |
| Woodlands and Waterways | This walk will take you along the banks of the Blackstone Canal and through areas of field and woodland. Learn about how the canal and agriculture shaped the landscape to what it is today. Wear comfortable clothes and sturdy shoes; bring water, snack and insect repellent if you choose. About 2 miles. Meet at Visitor Center. |
| Junior Naturalists | Nurture the natural urge to explore on this series of hands on activities and nature hikes. New topic every week. Suggested for elementary ages, older and younger siblings always welcome, no registration required. Children must be accompanied by adult. Meet at Visitor Center. |



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| Fish Prints | Once called America's hardest working river, the Blackstone River now supports a variety of fish. Drop in between 11:30-1:00 to learn about the species that call the Blackstone River home as we create works of art using replica fish. |
| Insect Safari | River Bend Farm's meadow is a great place to watch for insects. Get your family outside investigating nature and exploring on this catch and release bug hunt! Meet at Visitor Center. |
| Observations and Nature Journaling | Our nature notebook in the Visitor Center is brimming with interesting nature notes! Supplies provided to make your own nature journal to record your discoveries of the wild things at the park. Meet at Visitor Center. |
| Canal Towpath Walk | This easy 2 mile walk meets at River Bend Farm Visitor Center and continues along the canal's towpath. Appropriate for all ages, walk with us and listen to stories about the canal's history, ecology, geology, and wildlife. |
| Art at the River | A healthy dose of Nature and Art! We will take a short walk through the field to the Blackstone River. Relax a while and make a nature journal to write down your discoveries. Materials provided for nature notebook & sun print. All ages welcome. Meet at Visitor Center. |
| Night Sky | Blackstone River Valley National Historical Park, in conjunction with Blackstone River and Canal Heritage State Park and the Civil Air Patrol, is pleased to announce its Night Sky series. Join park staff and members of the Civil Air Patrol to look into the past and explore the wonders of the cosmos for five summer evenings filled with telescopes and constellations. From the curious beginner astronomer to experienced stargazers, all are welcome to these free programs. Members of the Civil Air Patrol will be on hand to show visitors how to use telescopes and to help navigate the night sky. Meet at Visitor Center. There will be plenty of parking and guides will help you from the parking lot to the field. |
| Stories in Stone Hike to Goat Hill Lock | This hike uncovers some interesting stories in stone and follows the changes in the landscape along the Blackstone Canal, stone arch bridges, an early stone quarry site and preserved remnants of a canal lock. Moderate hike up Goat Hill with roots and rocks along the path, approx. 2 miles. Meet at Visitor Center. |